

In the Claims:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled)

Claim 12. (amended) A dentifrice in the form of a toothpaste or tooth gel, comprising:

a) from about 0.01% to about 10% by weight of a phenolic, said phenolic selected from the group consisting of (i) a combination of menthol, eucalyptol, methyl salicylate, and thymol, (ii) triclosan, and (iii) mixtures thereof;

b) from about 0.1% by weight to about 60% by weight of a soluble cyclodextrin capable of solubilizing said phenolic without the use of high alcohol levels, high surfactant levels, or other phenolic cosolvents, said cyclodextrin selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl [b] β -cyclodextrin, hydroxyethyl [b] β -cyclodextrin, hydroxypropyl [g] γ -cyclodextrin, hydroxyethyl [g] γ -cyclodextrin, [a] α -cyclodextrin and methyl [b] β -cyclodextrin and mixtures thereof;

c) up to about 60% by weight of an orally acceptable dental abrasive; and

d) an orally acceptable carrier,

said composition being low temperature stable and substantially clear and substantially free of precipitants, flocculants, or crystals at about room temperature.

Claims 13-22 (cancelled)

Claim 23. (original) A dentifrice according to claim 22, wherein the amount of the orally acceptable suitable fluoride ion source sufficient to provide from about 250 ppm to about 1500 ppm fluoride.

Claim 24 (cancelled)

Claim 25. (amended) A dentifrice in the form of a toothpaste or tooth gel, comprising:

a) from about 0.01% to about 3% by weight of a phenolic, said phenolic selected from the group consisting of (i) a combination of menthol, eucalyptol, methyl salicylate, and thymol, (ii) triclosan, and (iii) mixtures thereof;

b) from about 0.1% by weight to about 30% by weight of a soluble cyclodextrin capable of solubilizing said phenolic without the use of high alcohol levels, high surfactant levels, or other phenolic cosolvents, said hydroxypropyl [b] β -cyclodextrin, hydroxyethyl [b] β -cyclodextrin, hydroxypropyl [g] γ -cyclodextrin, hydroxyethyl [g] γ -cyclodextrin, [a] α -cyclodextrin and methyl [b] β -cyclodextrin and mixtures thereof;

c) up to about 40% by weight of an orally acceptable dental abrasive;

d) up to about 4% by weight of an orally acceptable surfactant selected from the group consisting of an anionic surfactant, a nonionic surfactant, or mixtures thereof;

e) an orally acceptable suitable fluoride ion source sufficient to provide from about 250 ppm to about 1500 ppm fluoride; and

f) an orally acceptable carrier,

said composition being low temperature stable and substantially clear and substantially free of precipitants, flocculants, or crystals at about room temperature.

Claim 26 (cancelled)

Claim 27. (original) A method for retarding development of plaque on a dental surface in the oral cavity of a mammal, comprising administering to said dental surface an amount of a dentifrice according to claim 12 effective in retarding said development of plaque.

Claim 28 (cancelled)

Claim 29. (original) A method of treating gingivitis, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an amount of a dentifrice according to claim 12 effective in treating gingivitis.

Claim 30 (cancelled)

Claim 31. (original) A method of treating the presence of micro-organisms in the oral cavity of a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal in need of such treatment an amount of a dentifrice according to claim 12 effective in reducing the viable population of said micro-organisms.